

CONTINUING COMPETENCE AND CONTINUING EDUCATION

[Check for CC/CE Approval](#)

Continuing competence is the lifelong process of maintaining and documenting professional competence through ongoing *self-assessment*, development and implementation of a personal learning plan, and subsequent reassessment. Continuing Education (CE), in the traditional classroom-based format, was once the only activity available to help licensees maintain their professional competence. It is now only one of a growing number of activities, such as specialty exams, residencies, and the FSBPT Practice Review Tools, that the Board recognizes as promoting continuing competence.

As the profession moves toward a model for assessing competence, rather than simply counting CE hours, the quality of the activity will be a factor in the credit allotted, along with the number of hours it takes to complete the activity. Texas PTs and PTAs are legally required to complete continuing competence (CC) activities to maintain professional licensure - for PTs, 30 CC units during each two-year renewal cycle, for PTAs, 20 CC units. One CC unit is currently the equivalent of one hour of CE in value.

CE Audit

The Board performs a quarterly CC audit of licenses renewed in a previous quarter. When you renew, you must testify that you met all CC requirements - the number of CC units is correct, the activities are already approved by the TPTA, and that you completed them in the required timeframe. This audit requires randomly selected licensees to send in copies of continuing competency activities used to meet license renewal requirements. If the Board determines that you renewed your license fraudulently, you may be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including license suspension or revocation. Check your CC units or CE before you renew your license.

Approval of Activities/Courses by TPTA

All activities or CE courses - including college courses - used for renewal purposes must be approved by the TPTA. To submit a course for approval, or to see if a course has already been approved, go to [TPTA's website](#) . (You may also contact them by phone at 512/477-1818). TPTA's course approval list also shows if a course meets the ethics course requirement for renewal. (Only programs with supplemental ethics approval may be used to meet the ethics requirement.) Courses may be submitted for approval before or after you take them, but must be approved prior to the date you renew your license.

If you are taking a course which has not already been approved by TPTA, it is up to you to submit it for approval. Don't wait until it's time to renew to find out if your courses have been approved.

If you have any other questions about Continuing Education, please refer to Chapter 341, License Renewal. If you cannot find the answer to your question there, please call the Board office.